

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES DIVISION OF OIL, GAS AND MINING

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June 20, 2003

TO:

Minerals File

FROM:

Tom Munson, Senior Reclamation Hydrologist

RE:

Site Inspection, Mine Name, Barrick Resources (USA), Inc., Barrick Mercur Mine,

M/045/017, Tooele County, Utah

Date of Inspection:

June 11, 2003

Time of Inspection:

a.m. or p.m.

Conditions: Participants: sunny, warm Kevin Hamatake (830-1428) Barrick; Tom Munson and Doug Jensen, DOGM

**Purpose of Inspection:** To visit the site and view reclamation of the tailings impoundment as well as

other areas.

## **Observations:**

We met at the office at the Barrick Mercur site and from there drove to the tailings impoundment to view the reclamation and the remainder of the water that sits in the east bay. There is approximately 80 million gallons of water left in the east bay. On a good hot day, they can evaporate about <sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> of a million gallons of water with misters.

The tailings impoundment, which is isolated by a berm or a dike, has been regraded. They are still waiting for some areas that might possibly settle some more, wherein they would have to go back in and add more topsoil. The impoundment must have a consistent gradient from the east to the west towards the spillway. The contractor completed the grading of the impoundment last year. An earthen spillway was also constructed. There are some areas of the new earthen spillway that potentially will need to be ripraped when it dries out.

There are three soil stockpiles remaining, that will go on top of the tailings impoundment once they have gotten it to the proper grade, completing the reclamation. The goal to have positive drainage from the impoundment is so rain and snowmelt water will not continue to infiltrate into that impoundment and it will eventually dry out.

After we finished looking at the tailings impoundment, we got into our vehicles and traveled to the last heap leach that was reclaimed. We walked on that site. There was blue flax and an assortment of grasses. The revegetation was doing very well.



We then continued around the site and from a vista, panoramic photos of the whole site were taken in order to get a reference point in time for the reclamation project on that date.

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## **Conclusions and Recommendations:**

Another inspection needs to be preformed when the tailings impoundment is finally complete. Possibly, the spring of next year would be an appropriate time.

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